November 15, 1968

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Correspondence with Harold Weisberg, Coq d'Or Press, Route 8, Frederick, Maryland 21701

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The transcript of the executive session of January 27, 1964, of the Warren Commission requested by Mr. Harold Weisberg in the attached letter was reviewed by GSA, the CIA, and the Department of Justice. Mr. Martin Richman of the Office of Legal Counsel of the Department recommended that the entire transcript be withheld from research, and we have withheld it.

As Mr. Weisberg says, there are certain quotations, presumably taken from a copy of the transcript in Congressman Ford's possession, that are published in Portrait of the Assassin (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1965) by Gerald R. Ford and John R. Stiles (pages 19-25). Some material is deleted from the quotations without any indication of the deletions, and there are other variances from the text of the transcript. The quoted material does not consist of a continuous passage, but of various passages chosen from different pages. Only one complete page (page 158) of the transcript is included in the quoted material. We feel that to tell Mr. Weisberg this, or to supply him with a copy of the page that has been completely published, would encourage him to increase his demands for additional material from the transcript and from other withheld records.

JAMES B. RHOADS
Archivist of the United States

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